

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS
With Ferrin Cox

An interesting bit of information crossed the desk last week. It deals with the amount of credit card purchases the average person makes each year. The average holiday shopper spent \$1,220 on gifts during the past Christmas season. Taking that information a bit further . . . if this average shopper pays the minimum payment on the \$1,220 each month and is lucky enough to be paying only 18% interest, it will take 22 years to pay off the debt and interest payments will exceed \$2,500! The message in that bit of information is to buy only what you can pay for . . . at least before the end of the grace period on the plastic card . . . and then be sure to pay it off. That will give this average shopper over \$2,500 of extra money (previously spent on interest) to spend on some other gift of choice . . . and that is from just one year of smart shopping.

The Elba City Council had what could have been a hot potato Monday evening. Complaints about hunting within the city limits had come to the council last November. Monday, the city fathers heard and faced a room full of hunters opposing any changes in the law. After representatives for the group had spoke briefly, the council members agreed to take no action, thus leaving the law as it was and the hunters left satisfied.

It is amusing to watch the approval process for cabinet members as a new president gets ready to take office. Regardless of the winning party, the opposing party starts chomping at the bits to find fault and turn down one or more of the cabinet nominees. Of course with a lot of help from the news media. This year is no exception. First they were after the male nominee for Attorney General two/thirds. He has some opinions which get emotions charged real easily. But then information surfaced about a female nominee for Labor Secretary which is apparently easier to rally the troops behind . . . after all it has worked successfully before for similar reasons by one or the other of the political parties. This woman might be a loose canon, a dummy or whatever, we don't know and are not even going to try to find out . . . the Washington professionals can handle that. She is probably the person who will save Bush's nominee for Attorney General as people forget him in their enthusiasm for "getting" this woman.

The long anticipated four-laning of U. S. 84 moves a step closer this-month with the public hearing on the section from Martin Luther King Drive at 203 Bypass to Curtis. This is one of the areas where residents have been continually confused with rumors of the route going this way one week and another way next week. Maybe this informal hearing will finally clear up some of that confusion.

Saturday we spent 10 or 12 hours working on a computer network problem which cropped up suddenly and without any prior warning. Late Friday night the network was working fine and Saturday morning our newest computer wouldn't talk (or listen) to the server located three feet away. You can imagine the pride of our success when it became apparent the problem, which we had never had before, was solved without any outside help. A quick e-mail to our computer guru in Columbus, Ga. on Monday morning was designed to gloat over the successful doctoring job. Now imagine the drooping of feathers when a return e-mail advised us of the exact time that happened, and they can talk us through this kind of "minor" tech support for us . . . absolutely free.

It is good to see the creeks and rivers in this area getting some flow back into them, even if it is a bit muddy right now. The South has had a very dry year, with streams and lakes dropping to their lowest levels in the memory of most area citizens. It still seems weird to think of grass and weeds growing in what is best described as the bed of Pea River . . . almost 40 feet lower than the water level in that area when the levee broke on that faithful morning in 1990. Of course, come March, citizens of Elba and Geneva and the rest of the Coosa-Pea River basins will be getting a little skittish if those' water levels begin to rise above normal . . . or are at normal when the dark clouds start gathering in the southern skies.

The Coffee County Water Authority is attempting to make contact with rural residents throughout the county as they make plans for a countywide water system, serving all residents who are not already served by a public water system. Watch for the dates of those public meetings and get your name on the list, if you have not already done so. It is far better to get connected now than to wait until you don't have water to boil a pot of peas and then start scrambling for someone to help you get on the water system!

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Alabama Counties - \$19 per year - including tax
6 months - \$10
Outside Alabama - \$21 per year - 6 months - \$11

Dorsey Trailers reaches an agreement with lender

An additional announcement from the Atlanta offices of Dorsey Trailers indicates the company has reached an agreement with Foothill Capital Corporation, the lender under the company's existing working capital facility to extend the working relationship from the January 3, 2001 expiration date to March 3rd, 2001.

The agreement provides for EPI to assist in refinancing or efforts to seek a joint venture partner, sell, lease or otherwise dispose of the business as a going concern and/or some or all of the assets. This agreement expires 60 days from its approval by the U. S. Bankruptcy Court.

Marilyn R. Marks, Chairman of the Board of Directors, said in part: "Although our desire was to continue the company as an on-going operation, we must explore all aspects of maximizing the value of the company; as such, the company believes the best method to do this is the retention of EPI to explore the sale of the company in whole or in part, or to sell the individual assets of the company."

ELBA GENERAL HOSPITAL REPORT

On December 28, 2000, the company entered into an exclusive agreement with Equity Partners of Maryland, (EPI) an enterprise specializing in turnarounds, sales and refinancing, and liquidations of financially troubled companies.

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Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, January 1, 2001, investigated the following incidents: six thefts of property, one harassing communication, one missing person, one burglary, two harassments, two assaults, and one domestic dispute.

The following arrests were made: two for assault, one for failure to pay, one for failure to appear, and one for public intoxication.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: four for speeding, one for no insurance, one for running a stop sign, three for an expired tag, one for driving while driver's license is revoked, one for violation of the seat belt law, one for a driver's license not in possession, one for driver's view obstructed, and one for no driver's license.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows:

MONDAY, JANUARY 1: River stage - 4.62 feet (6:29 a.m.); Disturbance reported on Hickman Avenue (10:29 a.m.); Fire department dispatched to a fire on Hickman Avenue (7:16 p.m.); Routine activity.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2: River stage - 4.16 (6:31 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to Taylor Mill Oaks (5:07 p.m.); Routine activity.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3: River stage - 5.22 feet (8:27 a.m.); Alarm at a residence on Old Curtis Road (11:07 p.m.); Routine activity.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4: River stage - 6.33 feet (6:39 a.m.); Routine activity.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5: River stage - 5.22 feet (8:27 a.m.); Wreck reported on Co. Rd. 239 (4:50 p.m.); Fire department dis-

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SCHOOLS



Tiger Tales

Editors:
Bethany Dye
Amanda
Beerensrauch

Student Spotlight

by Francie English

Name: Autumn Parker

Parents: Jackie Parker and Michael and Diana Patrick

Age: 13

Grade: 8th

Favorite Color: Pink

Favorite Music: Anything reasonable (especially rock)

Clubs/Activities: FBLA and Chi Alpha Mu

Interest/Hobbies: Crafts, music and designing

Personal Quote: "Cheese!"

Autumn Parker was chosen to be in this week's Student Spotlight. Autumn's favorite subject is math because she can apply it in everyday life.

The one thing that she enjoys most about Elba High School is knowing that she will have several fond memories of it. She would like to take a class in sculpturing or crafts; however, neither one is offered at EHS.

After Autumn graduates she

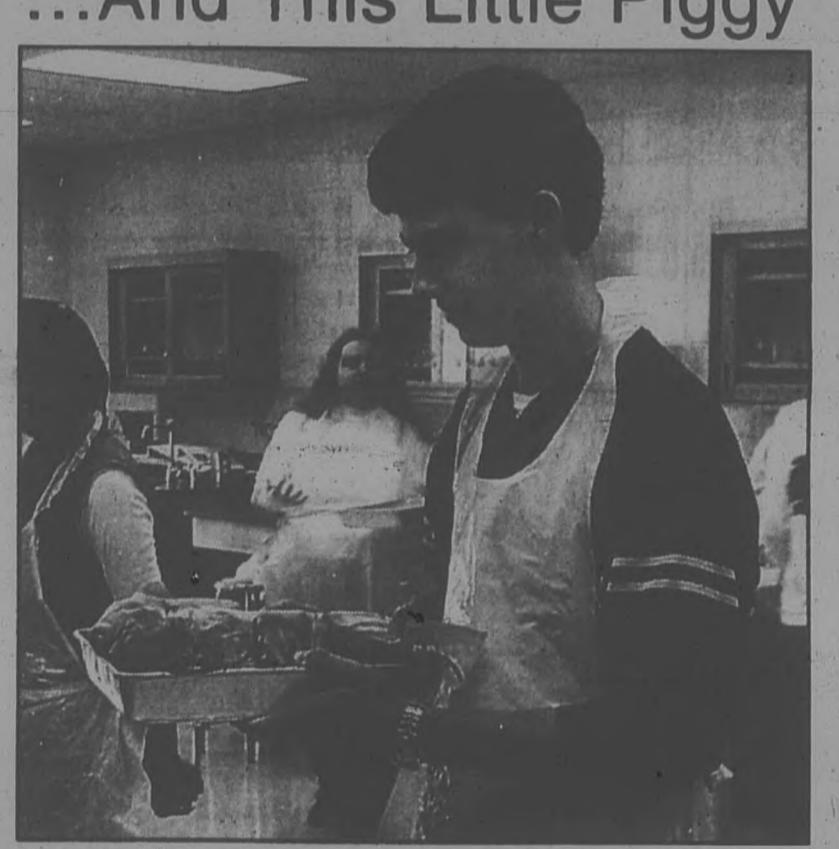


Autumn Parker

plans on going to Enterprise State Junior College for two years. Then she intends to be enrolled in a beauty school for the following two years.

The friends that she has are one of the things that she will always remember about Elba High.

...And This Little Piggy



by Amy Kirkland

The smell of formaldehyde recently filled the senior high lab at Elba High School. Mrs. Nelda Bailey's Advanced Anatomy and Physiology class dissected fetal pigs. Each student had his or her own pig to dissect and examine. Students learned how to cut the pig and locate different body parts. After dissecting the pigs, students had to put their knowledge to the test by taking a practical exam. The exam consisted of identifying numerous organs, tissues, and veins on the pig.

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radiation therapy in Opp,
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7th Grade English Class Writes Letters To The Editor

As part of a library skills unit on the newspaper, Mrs. Margaret Callahan required seventh grade English students in Mrs. Collins' and Mrs. Rhoades' classes to write letters to the editor of the "Tiger Tales" page in THE ELBA CLIPPER.

A panel of teachers and administrators selected three letters from each class to submit for publication in the newspaper.

Winners are as follows: (Collins 1st block) Rae Walker, Elena McCormick, Kendall Stinson; (Collins 2nd) Gail Miles, Shawna Whieldon, Casey Medlock; (Collins 3rd) Jordan Stinson, Stacie Baxley, Lenzo Cooks; (Rhoades 1st) Tamra Oliver, Tiffany Benten, Nicole Frost; and (Rhoades 4th) Chad Williams, Misty Canley and Marlene Griffin.

Those selecting letters said it was a tough job because there were some really good ones.

Dear Editor of Tiger Tales:

One of the things I like about school is the sports for girls. I enjoy sports because it builds confidence, team spirit, and friendship. I gain confidence in myself each time I go out on the court or field. I feel good about myself when I practice hard and try my best during a game.

Sports have taught me how to work as a team during practice and at a game. I have learned it takes a team to win a game. I feel good because they give me a chance to get to know my friends and classmates better. We all work hard, but we enjoy the challenge. We encourage each other on good days and bad. After all, that's what friends are for even for sports!

Sincerely,
Kendall Stinson

Dear Editor:

Eiba High School has many projects and activities. The band concerts are coming up, along with the JV and Varsity girls' and boys' basketball season. I like this high school because I enjoy the band and sports activities. Also in high school we also get to pick our own foods and to do more things. The teachers treat you like young adults not little kids.

Sincerely,
Chad Williams

Dear Editor:

I like about school is that we have more freedom in Elba High School than we did in elementary school. We also get to pick our own foods and to do more things. The teachers treat you like young adults not little kids.

Sincerely,
Tiffany Benten

Dear Editor:

The teachers at Elba High School are very sweet. The main teacher I like is Mrs. Rhoades because she is the sweetest person. She always makes sure we understand our work. I also like high school because we have a lot more freedom. The high school people are nice to me.

Sincerely,
Marlene Griffin

Dear Editor:

What I like about Elba High School are the teachers. They are nice, sweet, and intelligent. They let us have a break during class and work on computers. Another thing I like about high school is lunch. We can pick our own food or get what is on the menu. For these reasons I prefer the high school.

Sincerely,
Misty Canley

Dear Editor:

I am writing to tell you what interests me in high school. First and foremost, my favorite thing in high school was being in the marching band. I really enjoyed getting on the field and showing our school spirit and "Tiger Pride." Even though our team didn't have the best of luck at winning games, we knew that we had done our part. That was all that mattered. The second thing I like is my English teacher, Mrs. Collins. I look up to her as being a role model for children. She really brings out the best in us. I also love reading your articles and the others in "The Tiger Times." All of you are great! Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,
Shawna Whieldon

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Sincerely,
Casey Medlock

Dear Editor:

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Sports have taught me how to work as a team during practice and at a game. I have learned it takes a team to win a game. I feel good because they give me a chance to get to know my friends and classmates better. We all work hard, but we enjoy the challenge. We encourage each other on good days and bad. After all, that's what friends are for even for sports!

Sincerely,
Jordan Stinson

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Stacie Baxley

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Lenzo Cooks

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Dear Editor:

One of

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24' COACHMAN CAMPER, A/C & Microwave, Full Bath, Awning, ETC. Excellent Condition \$5,500.00 OBO. Call 389-0747 or 389-3031. 1-11-1p

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1990 CADILLAC EL DORADO. Like New. \$3,500. 897-3537. 1-11-3c

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YEAR END CLEARANCE! These Reduced Acid Sales Buildings. Two Are New. 20X24, 25X28. Take Over Payments. No Reasonable Offer. Refused Call 1-800-562-1110. 1-11-2p

\$0 DOWNS! cars at 19.9%: Police impounds and repos. 24 months at 19.9%. Call for past due listings. 1-800-941-8777. Ext. C498 (R)

AMAZINGLY LOW prices. Wolff Equipment. Best prices in the area. Excellent service. Flexible financing available. Home/commercial units. Free catalog. Today 1-800-842-1310. www.wolff.com

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MODEL 50 Vermeer diesel stump grinder / cutter. Excellent condition. 371 operating hours. 1000 hours. Extra set teeth / points / bolts. Must sell soon. (205) 459-7108 or 4624.

POSTAL JOBS - 548-323/3/ year. Now hiring, no experience, paid training, benefits! Call to put you to work 7 days a week. 1-800-429-3660. Ext. 1180 (R)

PURPLE MARTIN bird houses. 200, 92, 48, and 30. Purple Martin feeders, telephones, 38' tall poles. Free catalog. Order today! Call toll free 1-800-658-8908. www.km-mfg.com (R)

WOLF TANNING Beds! incredibly low prices - residential and commercial units. Financing available. Call 1-800-786-4671. Tanner's Glass Expressions. www.tanning.com.

BUILDING MATERIALS

INVENTORY clearance! Arch steel beams. Select models - 25 x 40, 30 x 50, 50 x 70, 50 x 100, 50 x 14 - \$11,775. 50 x 100 x 16 - \$15,750. 60 x 100 x 16 - \$17,203. Mini-storage buildings, 40 x 16, 32 units - \$16,914. Free brochures. www.sentinelbuildings.com. Sentinel Buildings - 1-800-327-0790. Extension 79

STEEL ROOFING and siding - 26 and 24 gauge. 26 gauge - 26 gauge painted lengths. We manufacture. Majestic Metals, Inc., Jackson, MS 1-800-647-8540; Athens, AL 1-800-871-0107; Gonzales, LA 1-888-504-8200. (R)

SAWMIllS. New super lumbermate 2000. Large capacities, more options. Call 1-800-578-1363. Ext. 300-N. (R)

STEEL BUILDINGS Sale: 5,000+ sq. ft. 60' x 100' x 16' - \$15,750. 14' x 51'7" x 50' x 100' x 16' - \$15,750. 60 x 100' x 16 - \$17,203. Mini-storage buildings, 40 x 16, 32 units - \$16,914. Free brochures. www.sentinelbuildings.com. Sentinel Buildings - 1-800-327-0790. Extension 79

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BOATS

GOOD BOATS cheap. Over 250 boats. New and used. Pontoon, bass, ski boats. Seats, rents. Low prices. Big rebates. Don't buy a boat without calling 1-800-467-3239.

SERVICES

HELP WANTED

THE COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION WILL BE ACCEPTING SEALED BIDS FOR THE LAWN CARE of the County Courthouse. Bid packages available in the Commission Office in New Brockton Monday through Friday from 8:00 A.M. until 4:30 P.M. All interested must use our bid form and submit bid on or before January 20 at 9:00 A.M. in the Commission Meeting Chambers (Community Room) in New Brockton, AL. For more information, please call (334) 894-5556. 1-11-1p

ERRORS

We strive to prevent errors in your ad, but any corrections necessary must be made immediately after first publication to insure proper credit.

PAYMENT

is by cash, check, credit card or 30-day charge with approved credit.

COST

Only \$30* per week
(first 15 words)
Additional words 15¢ each

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COMMUNITY NEWS



2,001 REASONS TO ENJOY THE YEAR... Dale Crowe of Elba was the recipient of a drawing held at Midnight on New Year's Eve in Elba. The drawing was held in conjunction with the city's "Countdown on the Square" celebration. As winner of the drawing, Crowe received \$2,001 from the Elba Chamber of Commerce. The check presentation was made last Thursday morning at Elba City Hall. Presenting Mr. Crowe (center) with the check were Herby McCall, representing the City of Elba, and Kaye Whitworth, executive director of the Elba Chamber of Commerce.

The Coffee County Water System will hold a series of meetings to sign up new water users not already served by an existing water system. All persons who live South of U.S. Hwy. 84 are urged to come to one of the following meetings and sign up for the proposed county water system.

The meetings in order of occurrence are:

THURSDAY JANUARY 11th at 6:30 PM at the Holley Store Community Center - located at the junction of C.R. 474 and 460

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18th at 6:30 PM at Brooklyn Methodist Church - located at junction of C.R. 440 and 437

THURSDAY JANUARY 25th at 6:30 PM at Asbury Methodist Church Rec. Building - located at junction of C.R. 636 and 625

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 1st at 6:30 PM at County Line Baptist Church - located on U.S. Hwy 92

The deadline for signing up is fast approaching.

Local students among final semester honor roll at MacArthur

Forty-three students maintained "A" averages during Fall Semester 2000, qualifying them to be listed on the MacArthur State Technical College President's List. Honor students from the local area include: Diane Brantley, Mack Elba, Katheren Devine, Shirley Keen, and Gail Ludmum, all of Kunston.

Also, forty-three students maintained a grade point average of 3.50 to 3.99 during the Fall Semester, qualifying them for the Dean's List. Local students being named to this list include: Debra Manning, Brantley; Jennifer Bryan, Elizabeth Bryant, Anita Christian, Detrich Horstead and Mary Meyers; all of Elba; Bobbie and Jennifer Wingard, both of Kunston.

Russell and Siler graduate from TSU

Adelia LaShawn Russell and Jacqueline LaShawn Siler, both of Elba, received their Bachelor's degree from Troy State University on Dec. 15, 2000 during the Fall Semester Commencement Exercises held at the university.

Small Ads Work...

Your Reading This One!!

**PUBLIC NOTICE
DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING
PROJECT NO. NHF-333(5)
COFFEE COUNTY**

The Alabama Department of Transportation will hold a Design Public Hearing for Project No. NHF-333(5), Coffee County, on Saturday, January 20, 2001 between the hours of 5:00 P.M. and 7:00 P.M. at the Elba Elementary School Cafeteria located at 102 Tiger Drive in Elba. This project concerns the four-laning of US-84 from SR-141 in Coffee County to County Road 364 in Elba.

A formal presentation will not be made. Accordingly, interested citizens can schedule their attendance at their convenience during the above-mentioned hours. Citizens attending this meeting will be provided project information (including the impact on adjacent properties) by viewing visual displays and through informal discussions with Department of Transportation personnel. Information regarding the Department of Transportation's Right-of-Way Acquisition and Relocation Assistance Procedures will be available at the hearing.

The meeting will provide the public an opportunity to express comments about the project in an informal atmosphere through discussions with Department of Transportation personnel and/or writing on the comment forms provided at the meeting. A recorder and stenographer will be available for anyone wishing to make a formal verbal comment about the project.

Persons with disabilities who may need special assistance should contact the Alabama Department of Transportation's Division Office, Highway 87 South, Troy, Alabama or call (334) 670-2452 at least one week in advance of the hearing.

Public attendance is urged and input is solicited.

